



**PATENT APPLICATION**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of

Docket No: Q64219

Kanji NAKAMURA, et al.

Appln. No.: 09/838,340

Group Art Unit: 3725

Confirmation No.: 1059

Examiner: Waymond D. Bray

Filed: April 20, 2001

For: RECYCLE OF GRINDNG SLUDGE

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*9/28/02*

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**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed August 26, 2002 in which the Examiner set a shortened statutory period for response by one month, making a reply due on or before September 26, 2002.

In the Action, the Examiner has required restriction under 35 U.S.C. § 121 to one of the following:

Group I      Claims 1-38<sup>1</sup> and 38-42, drawn to the method of  
and apparatus for compressing sludge, classified in class 100,  
subclass 37; and

Group II      Claims 34-37, drawn to a compressed sludge  
product, classified in class 44, subclass 551.

Applicant hereby elects Group 1, drawn to claims 1-33 and 38-42, without traverse.

Applicant reserves the right to file a divisional application on the non-elected claims.

<sup>1</sup> Applicants' believe that the Examiner meant claims 1-33.

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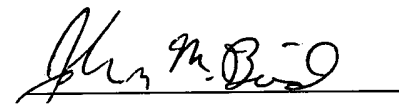
**Response to Restriction Requirement**  
**Serial No. 09/838,340**  
**Our Ref: Q64219**

Applicants respectfully point out to the Examiner that claim 35 was canceled and that claims 43 and 44 were added in a Preliminary Amendment dated June 8, 2001. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the Preliminary Amendment which was previously filed.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant believes that a complete examination on the merits is now in order. Early and favorable action is respectfully requested.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

  
John M. Bird  
Registration No. 46,027

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC  
2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20037-3213  
Telephone: (202) 293-7060  
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

Date: September 25, 2002